

## Andrew Jackson to Amos Kendall, March 23, 1838, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### TO POSTMASTER GENERAL KENDALL.1

1 Cincinnati Commercial, Feb. 4, 1879.

Hermitage, March 23, 1838.

*My dear sir*, I never have doubted your friendship; you have had my confidence and I have no fear that you will ever do an act to give me cause for regret. You omitting writing I ascribed to its proper cause, and to convince you how much you have my confidence you have only to apply to Mr. Blair for my answer when applied to by another to write my Biography; you had my promise; I had confidence in you—had spoken to you on that subject, and to none else could my papers be delivered for such purpose but you, unless you declined the task.

The Treasury note scheme was one that I was firmly opposed [to]. Speak to Mr. Grundy on this subject; he will tell you, and so will my friend Mr. Blair, that I predicted their depreciation; that the Banks and Biddle would combine to depreciate them. Had my voice been heard, I would have brought suit against every bank that dishonored the Gov't draft upon it, and adopted every energetic means to have met the debts of the Gov't, regardless of the cries of the bankers, stockholders, speculators and gamblers. It was these who had brought on the country evil—not the people; and why should the labour of the country suffer and all relief given to those who were active agents in bringing on the evil by overissues and overtrading? It is the merchants who are the bankers, and why ought they to be indulged at the great loss of the labour of the country? Had the Banks and

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merchants been compelled to have paid their dues to the Government, no specie would have been shipped to England, and the Bank of England would have soon been compelled to have given relief to the merchants to have prevented the loss of million[s] to England and to the Bank of England. Rest assured the whole was a combination of the Bank of England with Mr. Biddle and the aristocracy here, to ruin the Executive and the country, and to place the Government into the hands of the opposition. The conservatives were the tools—I hope the deluded tools of the great wire-workers in this drama, lead on by the ambitious view of reaching the Executive chair by raising a new party, who would hold the balance of power in their hands, and who the opposition as they believed, would unite [with] to defeat the election of Mr. Van Buren; but the Talmages and the Rives, will find in the end that like old Judge White, they will be used and then despised by their new allies.

I must close. I shall expect to see you with your Lady at the Hermitage the ensuing summer or fall, and nothing will afford me and my household more pleasure, who all unite with me in kind salutations to you, your Lady and family. I have presented your respects to Col. Earle who warmly reciprocates them and is happy to hear that his letter has reached you.

I remain very respectfully your friend

P. S. I fear you can not read this scroll.